UfM Gas Platform Newsletter

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UfM Gas Platform website online at https://www.ufmgasplatform.org/

Message from the UfM Gas Platform Secretariat

Since 2022, significant changes have been taking place in the energy markets, in particular in the gas and LNG ones, and more specifically in the European area. Natural gas and LNG from the Mediterranean region can play a crucial role in providing the EU with affordable, abundant and secure gas to mitigate the loss of Russian pipeline gas

Therefore, the Secretariat of the UfM Gas Platform prepared a revised version of its 2023 report on *the role of LNG in the Euro-Med. gas supply security*. The report includes updated data and information on all the elements of the LNG chain (trade, infrastructures, new services, etc.) as well as the implications for the region of the US pause on LNG export facility authorizations.

Another draft report on *the role of natural gas for achieving a sustainable low carbon transport system* is about to be circulated soon among WG members, as well as an update of the UfM Gas Platform infrastructure database including for the first time data on hydrogen storage and pipelines in the Mediterranean area.

During the quarter, the Secretariat of the UfM Gas Platform, in line with its work programme, began the groundwork for the new edition of the Mediterranean Energy Perspectives (MEP) to be released in spring 2025. It organised the kick-off meeting of the MEP Task Force in July and a first MEP Advisory Board meeting in September (see below).

In parallel, the Secretariat also maintains a concrete and effective dissemination of the information about the UfM Gas Platform and its activities among the broader public through its dedicated website and participation in meetings. It will organise in cooperation with the East Mediterranean Gas Forum (EMGF) a joint conference in Paris on *how to decarbonise the maritime sector in the Mediterranean* (see below).

The UfM Gas Platform is a concrete outcome of the will of the UfM members and major stakeholders to strengthen dialogue and cooperation between the EU and South and East Mediterranean countries.

More information available at: **ufmgasplatform.org**

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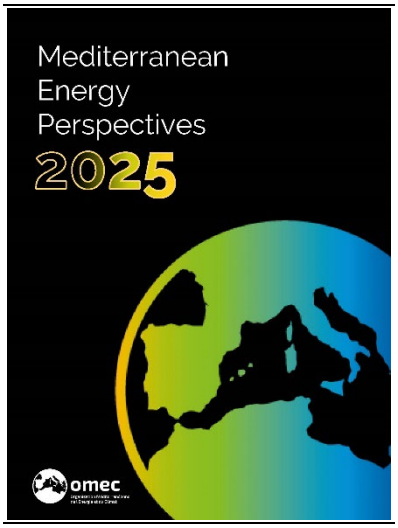

Mediterranean Energy Perspectives (MEP) 2025

On 17 July 2024, the OMEC held the kick-off meeting of the MEP Task Force to establish the foundations of OMEC's energy scenarios and prepare for the MEP 2025 report. Participants discussed how the scenarios could be used to enhance internal analyses or support interactions with external stakeholders. Key discussions included the need for detailed data sharing, and the modelling process for energy demand, production, and emissions.

On 19 September 2024, the MEP Advisory Board convened to share its expertise to define the assumptions and scenarios of an updated Mediterranean energy and climate outlook to be released in the MEP 2025.

The meeting, organized by the OMEC, was a follow-up to the MEP Task Force meeting held mid-July and built upon the discussions from that session. The focus was on advancing the work on MEP 2025, including on scenarios, thematic themes and stakeholder outreach. Key discussions were centred on defining new scenarios assumptions, defining how to integrate new technologies and deal with trade issues as well as the potential outreach of the scenarios.

The OMEC will organize a second Advisory Board meeting in early 2025 to review the results of the first run of the scenarios to 2050, incorporating the latest data and long-term plans for its Reference Scenario and its net-zero carbon emissions Scenario.

Upcoming event

On 8 October 2024, the OMEC, as Secretariat of the UfM Gas Platform, and the East Mediterranean Gas Forum (EMGF) will organise in Paris a joint conference on *how to decarbonise the maritime sector in the Mediterranean*. The event aims at bringing together key stakeholders to present, discuss and develop feasible decarbonization scenarios tailored to the unique challenges and opportunities of the Mediterranean maritime sector.

The different sessions of the conference will provide an overview of emissions from maritime activities in the Mediterranean, examine policy frameworks and regulatory initiatives, assess technological solutions for ships operating in the Mediterranean, infrastructure development, analyse economic and social implications of decarbonization measures, and also explore opportunities for cross-sectoral collaboration.

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